

**April 19, 2013**

**Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.**

**The Detroit News: Court OKs grand jury investigation into meningitis-related deaths, infections**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has granted Attorney General Bill Schuette's request to empanel a four-county grand jury investigation into meningitis-related infections and deaths of state residents caused by tainted prescription pain medication. In a 2-1 decision, a three-judge appeals court panel on Friday appointed Livingston County 44th Circuit Chief Judge David J. Reader to oversee a probe of the distribution of tainted steroids by the New England Compounding Center of Framingham, Mass."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Detroit Free Press: Schuette to impanel grand jury to investigate meningitis outbreak**

[Full story](#)

**Daily Press & Argus: Livingston judge to oversee compounding-pharmacy grand jury**

[Full story](#)

**MLive.com: Grand jury to investigate Michigan meningitis outbreak linked to 16 deaths, 259 infections**

[Full story](#)

**The MiLW Blog: Grand jury investigation into meningitis-related deaths, infections gets go-ahead**

[Full story](#)

**WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Michigan appeals court approves attorney general's request for grand jury on meningitis outbreak**

[Full story](#)

**WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Appeals court says grand jury can investigate Michigan meningitis outbreak**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Sandra Layne sentenced to 20-40 years in death of grandson**

"A sometimes sobbing West Bloomfield grandmother told a packed courtroom she was sorry she had shot her teenage grandson to death, begging the judge not to give her a long prison sentence.... But Judge Denise Langford Morris exceeded sentencing guidelines and ordered [Sandra] Layne, who had no criminal history, to spend 20-40 years in prison."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: West Bloomfield Twp. grandmother gets 20-40 years for killing grandson**

[Full story](#)

**The Daily Globe/Ironwood: Regional judges to take new approach with drunk drivers**

"A program to dramatically reduce drunk driving in the five western Upper Peninsula counties was kicked off at the Ontonagon County Courthouse Wednesday and Thursday. Ontonagon, Houghton, Baraga, Gogebic and Keweenaw counties will form a regional driving while intoxicated court approach. Retired Judge Patrick Bowler, after 24 years on the bench, is the state judicial outreach liaison for the program."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Wayne County Friend of the Court offers bench warrant amnesty (second article)**

"Wayne County Friend of the Court is offering amnesty on bench warrants for those in arrears on child support. From May 1 – 24, payers who appear and pay 1 percent or \$250, whichever is greater, toward their child support arrearage will receive amnesty."

[Full story](#)

### **The Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph: Michigan: County needs fewer judges; County: No, you don't understand - we need 11**

"A state administrative agency has made a preliminary finding that Berrien County Trial Court should have fewer judges because of a shrinking caseload. An analysis of judicial resources by the State Court Administrative Office determined that the trial court's complement of judges should be reduced from the current 11 to 9.5."

[Full story](#)

### **Kalamazoo Gazette: WMU's Board of Trustees votes to pursue formal alliance with Cooley Law School**

"Plans for Western Michigan University and Cooley Law School to join together took another step forward Thursday. WMU's Board of Trustees unanimously passed a measure, added to the agenda, approving 'the development of an agreement for the University to affiliate with the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.' "

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Judge shows equal justice (second article)**

"Ionia County District Judge Raymond Voet earns a salute for, of all things, holding himself in contempt and charging himself a fine. The judge has a posted policy state that electronic devices that disrupt court sessions will result in a contempt citation. Last week, his new smartphone disrupted a hearing in his own courtroom."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Ionia Sentinel-Standard: Voet goes viral; Judge's cell phone fluke makes international news**

[Full story](#)

### **Legal Newswire: Mich. appeals court says no-fault insurers entitled to reimbursement**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has upheld a decision awarding workers' compensation benefits to a trucker who was injured while making a delivery and reimbursement to two no-fault insurers for benefits they paid. In its unpublished opinion Tuesday, the appeals court sided with the state Workers' Compensation Appellate Commission, or WCAC, in the case of plaintiff William Baird."

[Full story](#)

### **The Macomb Daily: State of Emergency: Hackel says County Building shut down for months following fire**

"... [Macomb County Executive Mark] Hackel on Thursday declared a local state of emergency because the fire damaged the county's mainframe computers, which has knocked out the Internet and phone systems. The adjacent Circuit Court Building is continuing to operate without computer operations and with only sporadic phone service. All the work is being done by hand, with pen and paper."

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.**

***Also see:***

### **Macomb County Legal News: Fire disrupts county services**

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: 'Walk for Justice' supports legal aid clinic**

"On Saturday, April 6, a 'Walk for Justice' took place at the Detroit Zoo in support of the Salvation Army's William Booth Legal Aid Clinic (WBLAC). Getting ready to hit the trail to raise funds for the clinic were retired Judge Fred Mester, WBLAC founder Ellen Dickman, Wayne County Circuit Court Judges Lita Popke and Maria Oxholm [among others]."

[Full story](#)